

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 975

To provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports, and to establish
a steel import notification and monitoring program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY (for himself, Mr. QUINN, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. NEY, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. KLINK, Mr. REGULA, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. WELLER, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. GANSKE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. COYNE, Mr. BERRY, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. GOODLING, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. WISE, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. LARSON, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. FORBES, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SAWYER, and Mr. CANNON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To provide for a reduction in the volume of steel imports,

and to establish a steel import notification and monitoring program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN VOLUME OF STEEL IMPORTS.**

4 (a) REDUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law, within 60 days after the date of the enactment
6 of this Act, the President shall take the necessary steps,
7 by imposing quotas, tariff surcharges, negotiated enforce-
8 able voluntary export restraint agreements, or otherwise,
9 to ensure that the volume of steel products imported into
10 the United States during any month does not exceed the
11 average volume of steel products that was imported
12 monthly into the United States during the 36-month pe-
13 riod preceding July 1997.

14 (b) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—Within 60 days
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
16 of the Treasury, through the United States Customs Serv-
17 ice, and the Secretary of Commerce shall implement a pro-
18 gram for administering and enforcing the restraints on
19 imports under subsection (a). The Customs Service is au-
20 thorized to refuse entry into the customs territory of the
21 United States of any steel products that exceed the allow-
22 able levels of imports of such products.

23 (c) APPLICABILITY.—

1 (1) CATEGORIES.—This section shall apply to
2 the following categories of steel products: semi-
3 finished, plates, sheets and strips, wire rods, wire
4 and wire products, rail type products, bars, struc-
5 tural shapes and units, pipes and tubes, iron ore,
6 and coke products.

7 (2) VOLUME.—Volume of steel products for
8 purposes of this section shall be determined on the
9 basis of tonnage of such products.

10 (d) EXPIRATION.—This section shall expire at the
11 end of the 3-year period beginning 60 days after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 2. STEEL IMPORT NOTIFICATION AND MONITORING**
14 **PROGRAM.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce,
17 in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall
18 establish and implement a steel import notification and
19 monitoring program. The program shall include a require-
20 ment that any person importing a product classified under
21 chapter 72 or 73 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of
22 the United States obtain an import notification certificate
23 before such products are entered into the United States.

24 (b) STEEL IMPORT NOTIFICATION CERTIFICATES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In order to obtain a steel
2 import notification certificate, an importer shall sub-
3 mit to the Secretary of Commerce an application
4 containing—

5 (A) the importer’s name and address;

6 (B) the name and address of the supplier
7 of the goods to be imported;

8 (C) the name and address of the producer
9 of the goods to be imported;

10 (D) the country of origin of the goods;

11 (E) the country from which the goods are
12 to be imported;

13 (F) the United States Customs port of
14 entry where the goods will be entered;

15 (G) the expected date of entry of the goods
16 into the United States;

17 (H) a description of the goods, including
18 the classification of such goods under the Har-
19 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States;

20 (I) the quantity (in kilograms and net
21 tons) of the goods to be imported;

22 (J) the cost insurance freight (CIF) and
23 free alongside ship (FAS) values of the goods to
24 be entered;

1 (K) whether the goods are being entered
2 for consumption or for entry into a bonded
3 warehouse or foreign trade zone;

4 (L) a certification that the information
5 furnished in the certificate application is cor-
6 rect; and

7 (M) any other information the Secretary of
8 Commerce determines to be necessary and ap-
9 propriate.

10 (2) ENTRY INTO CUSTOMS TERRITORY.—In the
11 case of merchandise classified under chapter 72 or
12 73 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United
13 States that is initially entered into a bonded ware-
14 house or foreign trade zone, a steel import notifica-
15 tion certificate shall be required before the merchan-
16 dise is entered into the customs territory of the
17 United States.

18 (3) ISSUANCE OF STEEL IMPORT NOTIFICATION
19 CERTIFICATE.—The Secretary of Commerce shall
20 issue a steel import notification certificate to any
21 person who files an application that meets the re-
22 quirements of this section. Such certificate shall be
23 valid for a period of 30 days from the date of
24 issuance.

25 (c) STATISTICAL INFORMATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.— The Secretary of Commerce
2 shall compile and publish on a weekly basis informa-
3 tion described in paragraph (2).

4 (2) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—Information
5 described in this paragraph means information ob-
6 tained from steel import notification certificate ap-
7 plications concerning steel imported into the United
8 States and includes with respect to such imports the
9 Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States
10 classification (to the tenth digit), the country of ori-
11 gin, the port of entry, quantity, value of steel im-
12 ported, and whether the imports are entered for con-
13 sumption or are entered into a bonded warehouse or
14 foreign trade zone. Such information shall also be
15 compiled in aggregate form and made publicly avail-
16 able by the Secretary of Commerce on a weekly basis
17 by public posting through an Internet website. The
18 information provided under this section shall be in
19 addition to any information otherwise required by
20 law.

21 (d) FEES.—The Secretary of Commerce may pre-
22 scribe reasonable fees and charges to defray the costs of
23 carrying out the provisions of this section, including a fee
24 for issuing a certificate under this section.

1 (e) SINGLE PRODUCER AND EXPORTER COUN-
2 TRIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
3 Secretary of Commerce shall make publicly available all
4 information required to be released pursuant to subsection
5 (c), including information obtained regarding imports
6 from a foreign producer or exporter that is the only pro-
7 ducer or exporter of goods subject to this section from a
8 foreign country.

9 (f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Commerce may
10 prescribe such rules and regulations relating to the steel
11 import notification and monitoring program as may be
12 necessary to carry the provisions of this section.

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